

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 4, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
The U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

As you work to implement the recently enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-16), we respectfully request that you allocate a portion of the funding included in the law for Fossil Energy Research and Development to the Oxy-Fuel System Turbine Program (OSTP).


As you know, the area of oxy-fueled combustion holds great promise in capturing a higher percentage of carbon dioxide produced by electricity generation than pre- or post-combustion technologies. The goal of OSTP is the commercial deployment of oxy-fuel power plants that capture and sequester more than 99% of the carbon dioxide, using natural gas, biomass, or coal-derived synthetic gas as fuel, and are competitive (both in cost and efficiency) with current fossil fuel power plants.

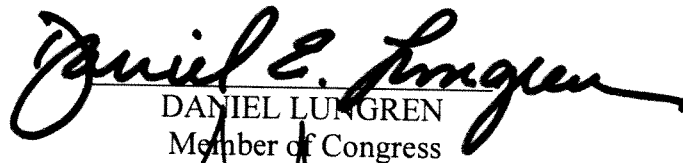
The Department of Energy (DOE) previously entered into cooperative agreements with Clean Energy Systems, Inc., and Siemens Power Generation, Inc., to develop oxy-fuel power plant technology enabling large scale projects. That said, it is our understanding the original agreement entered into was never fully funded by DOE, which has resulted in a delay of bringing a large-scale oxy-turbine demonstration power plant online. By allocating funding included in P.L. 111-16 to the OSTP, this will help ensure that important oxy-fuel turbine technology can continue to be developed and move closer to large scale deployment in a timely manner, as well as help meet obligations DOE previously agreed to.

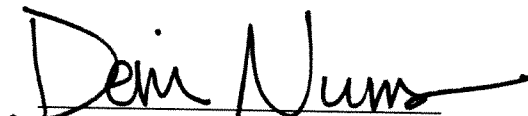
We believe it is important to ensure that Californians and all Americans have access to affordable and reliable energy. We also believe it is important to develop clean and emission-free energy technologies to help protect the environment. That said, oxy-fueled turbine technology holds much promise in developing a zero-emissions fossil-fueled power plant. With competitive capital costs compared to other carbon capture technologies, failure to fund such research is truly a missed opportunity.

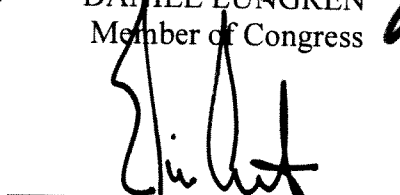
We appreciate your consideration of our request. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.


Sincerely,



KEVIN McCARTHY
Member of Congress


DANIEL LUNGREN
Member of Congress


DEVIN NUNES
Member of Congress


JIM COSTA
Member of Congress


MARY BONO MACK
Member of Congress


GEORGE RADANOVICH
Member of Congress